NEW HARMONY HISTORIC DISTRICT

Main Street between Granary and Church Streets, New Harmony

Utopian communities are rare enough, but New Harmony is unique: it was the site of not one, but two such settlements—one religious, one secular. In 1815, German religious refugees under the leadership of George Rapp established the first colony but stayed only a decade. In 1824, English industrialist and philanthropist Robert Dale Owen purchased "Harmonie" to establish a community based on "universal happiness through universal education." Buildings from both eras remain, many of them open to the public.